

# Patience

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## PATIENCE

A topic that is an integral part of this universe. A topic that every aspect of this universe needs. A topic that you can see through the creation of the sky and the earth. It took Allah seven days, when it could have taken Him one word. Allah ordered the creation of the sky and the earth within seven days when it could have been one word, be, and it would have been done. If you grow anything, a tree, a fruit, a plant, it is going to take time for you to see the fruits. If your wife is pregnant or a woman is pregnant, the baby does not just come in a matter of moments, it takes time. And that is the topic of patience.

It is so important, Allah mentioned it in the Qur'an over ninety times. The first verse in Surat al-Baqarah where Allah talks about patience:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اسْتَعِينُوا بِالصَّبْرِ وَالصَّلَاةِ ۚ إِنَّ اللَّهَ مَعَ الصَّابِرِينَ  
﴿١٥٣﴾ وَلَا تَقُولُوا لِمَنْ يُقْتَلُ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ أَمْوَاتٌ ۚ بَلْ أَحْيَاءٌ وَلَكِنْ  
لَا تَشْعُرُونَ ﴿١٥٤﴾ وَلَنَبْلُوَنَّكُمْ بِشَيْءٍ مِّنَ الْخَوْفِ وَالْجُوعِ وَنَقْصٍ مِّنَ  
الْأَمْوَالِ وَالْأَنْفُسِ وَالثَّمَرَاتِ ۚ وَبَشِّرِ الصَّابِرِينَ ﴿١٥٥﴾ ﴿البقرة﴾

O you who believe! Seek help in patience and As-Salat (the prayer). Truly! Allah is with As-Saabireen (the patient ones, etc). And say not of those who are killed in the Way of Allah, "They are dead." Nay, they are living, but you perceive (it) not. And certainly, We shall test you with something of fear, hunger, loss of wealth, lives and fruits, but give glad tidings to As-Saabireen (the patient ones, etc). (Surat al-Baqarah: 153-155)

Who are those who are patient?

The next verse:

الَّذِينَ إِذَا أَصَابَتْهُمْ مُصِيبَةٌ قَالُوا إِنَّا لِلَّهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ ﴿البقرة: ١٥٦﴾

Who, when afflicted with calamity, say: "Truly! To Allah we belong and truly, to Him we shall return." (Surat al-Baqarah: 156)

What is the reward Yaa Allah?

The next verse:

أُولَئِكَ عَلَيْهِمْ صَلَوَاتٌ مِّن رَّبِّهِمْ وَرَحْمَةٌ ۖ وَأُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْمُهْتَدُونَ

﴿البقرة: ١٥٧﴾

They are those on whom are the Salawaat (i.e. blessings, etc) (i.e. who are blessed and will be forgiven) from their Lord, and (they are those who) receive His Mercy, and it is they who are the guided ones. (Surat al-Baqarah: 157)

Who are these people? These are the people who are patient in this life.

وَبَشِّرِ الصَّابِرِينَ

Glory to those who are patient.

إِنَّ اللَّهَ مَعَ الصَّابِرِينَ

Allah is with those who are patient.

Glory to those who are patient, Allah is with those who are patient. Words in the Qur'an that are not attributed to any other character other than patience.

The verses in the Qur'an where Allah reprimanded Adam for not being patient in Heaven:

...وَلَمْ نَجِدْ لَهُ عَزْمًا ﴿طه: ١١٥﴾

And We found on his part no firm willpower. (Surat Taha: 115)

He was not patient, Allah reprimanded him in the Qur'an.

If you look at the secret of victory in the Qur'an, it is patience. How is it patience? The key to victory is patience. When Taloot and Jaloot in the very long story of half a million fighting Jaloot, the giants of their time, it is in Surat al-Baqarah. The story is long, however the summary and the key to their victory was patience. How? If you look at the verses of the story:

...قَالَ الَّذِينَ يَظُنُّونَ أَنَّهُم مُّلاقُوا اللَّهَ كَمْ مِّن فِئَةٍ قَلِيلَةٍ غَلَبَتْ فِئَةً كَثِيرَةً

بِإِذْنِ اللَّهِ ۖ وَاللَّهُ مَعَ الصَّابِرِينَ ﴿البقرة: ٢٤٩﴾

But those who knew with certainty that they were to meet their Lord, said: “How often a small group overcame a mighty host by Allah’s Leave?” And Allah is with As-Saabireen (the patient ones, etc). (Surat al-Baqarah: 249)

How many small groups win a large group or giants. Why Yaa Allah, why?

## وَاللَّهُ مَعَ الصَّابِرِينَ

It takes patience for three hundred and seventeen to fight the giants of their time and liberate Falasteen. Patience with their Imaan liberated Falasteen. Look at the next verse, it does not stop there. When they meet the enemy:

...قَالُوا رَبَّنَا أَفْرِغْ عَلَيْنَا صَبْرًا وَثَبِّتْ أَقْدَامَنَا وَانصُرْنَا عَلَى الْقَوْمِ الْكَافِرِينَ

﴿البقرة: ٢٥٠﴾

They invoked: “Our Lord! Pour forth on us patience and make us victorious over the disbelieving people.” (Surat al-Baqarah: 250)

Shower us with patience, we need to be fulfilled with patience. What is the next verse? The three hundred and seventeen were patient, after patience:

فَهَزَمُوهُمْ بِإِذْنِ اللَّهِ... ﴿البقرة: ٢٥١﴾

So they routed them by Allah’s Leave. (Surat al-Baqarah: 251)

The giants, when Allah describes them as giants, they are giants. Three hundred and seventeen overpower them, why? Because of their patience and Imaan.

If you look at the Hadith, the Prophet sallallahu ‘alayhi wa sallam said:

الصَّبْرُ ضِيَاءٌ

Patience is brightness. How could patience be brightness? Patience is brightness in this life because a person with a problem, and all of you know this because we all go through problems, a problem in one’s life makes this Earth in front of him, a black cloud. And this black cloud becomes brightness when you have the right patience that we are talking about over here. That is why the Prophet sallallahu ‘alayhi wa sallam said, patience is brightness.

Not only that, in the Judgment Day, patience is going to be brightness with your mountains of deeds, just for being patient. That is how the Prophet sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam teaches an eleven year old kid. He tells him, Ibn Abbaas, victory comes with patience:

وَأَعْلَمُ أَنَّ النَّصْرَ مَعَ الصَّبْرِ

If it was not any other, then the name of Allah is the perfection in patience. As-Saboor, that is enough. To use this attribute of Allah upon ourselves, because Allah has these attributes and these attributes belong to Allah in a manner, we do not know how. We do not know how the patience of Allah is, we know He has patience. And when you say Allah has patience, As-Saboor, it adds honour to that character and attribute that we have amongst ourselves, although our patience in no way resembles the patience of Allah by any means.

...لَيْسَ كَمِثْلِهِ شَيْءٌ ۖ وَهُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْبَصِيرُ ﴿الشورى: ١١﴾

There is nothing like unto Him, and He is the All Hearer, the All Seer. (Surat ash-Shoora: 11)

If you look at the kinds of patience, there is three kinds. There is patience on the trials and tribulations in life, there is patience on the ordains of Allah, and there is patience to refrain from the sins. We take them one by one.

The patience on the trials and tribulations in life. Life is full of problems. You have to understand this and know this because if you are not in a problem, you are waiting for a problem. That is life, that is the Sunnah of Allah in this life. If you are not in a problem, you are waiting for it. So if someone mocks someone for a problem, he is only awaiting one, that is the Sunnah of Allah. And elders with experience can tell you this, life is not smooth. Life was not smooth to the Messengers, it was not smooth for the true believers. If life was smooth then this would be Heaven, but it is not, so you have to have problems. How do we deal with the problems?

Look at what the Prophet sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam says about one who had a beloved one, who someone beloved to him died, one of the biggest problems. If it did not happen, it is destined to happen. If someone, beloved one, did not die, it is either they are going to die and he is going to weep over them, or they are going to weep over him. It is going to happen, it has to happen in this life. How do you deal with it?

You look to the first advice of the Prophet sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam in one of his Halaqaat, teaching women of his time, what did he tell the women? The women said give us, you know you give the men all the days, give us a day to teach us. The first day he taught them and the first thing he taught them, he said, whoever has three kids and those three kids die

and she is patient, she has no reward but Heaven. A woman said, what about two? He said, and two. She said, what about one? He said, and one.

Allah in the authentic Hadith by the Prophet sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam, the Prophet sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam said, Allah tells the Angel of Death, did you take the soul of the servant's beloved one? I have a child, a brother, a relative, a father, did you take the soul of that person's beloved one? The angel says, yes I took it. Of course it is under the command of Allah, but it is going to teach us something over here. He says, did you take the fruit of the heart of the one my servant loves? Yes, we took it. Allah asked the angel, what did that person say? What was the consequence of that person, how did he react. He said, he said Alhamdulillah, Inna Lillahi wa Inna Ilayhi Raaji'oon. Alhamdulillah, to Allah we return and to Allah we resort. A loved one, and he says these words. Allah tells the Angels, build him a palace in Heaven, call it Bayt al-Hamd. His palace, Bayt al-Hamd.

A misery in this life could be a paved way for you in Heaven. The young children in Heaven are allowed entry to Heaven. They say no, but there is something missing, our parents. The parents could be doomed to Hell for something, could have a lot of sins, we want our parents. That little baby who we wept and shed tears over, if we were truly patient, is a path to Heaven. Allah says, enter Heaven. The little child says, but where are my parents? Allah says take the hands of your parents and enter Heaven.

We have to change. Islam not only has to change us in the way we worship Allah, but it has to change us in the manners we react and look to things in life. We are not people of Lithium and Prozac, we are people who turn to Allah in our miseries and atrocities. And what miseries do you have than an Ummah that is being annihilated everywhere on this Earth? The threats of the Ummah, for those Muslims who care about their brothers. Your brothers in Iraq are being threatened day and night, what is the reason behind that? They said Rabbunallah, Allah is our Lord. Why? Why is that? Because we left them, we do not think about them. But you know, what we can consolidate with each other and tell each other is, be patient in these times of atrocities. When we see the enemies threatening, they are not after Saddaam, it is not Saddaam they are after, it is after the Muslims, the innocent Muslims of Iraq. Saddaam is one man, he can go take him, leave the innocent Muslims. Six thousand kids die, what more patience do we need? Your brothers, your children in Iraq, six thousand die every single month, because of malnutrition. That shot that you take your kid for that costs fifty cents is the source that your brothers in Iraq die for, six thousand every month. We need patience when we look at these miseries. We need patience when we see the bombarding, the annihilation of our brothers in Falasteen. We need patience when we see the killing and massacres of our brothers, and burning of our brothers in Kashmir. Patience is what we need. That is the first kind of patience.

The second one is patience doing the commands of Allah. To pray, to wake up in Fajr, to do any command Allah ordered, you have to have patience, by Allah. But before we talk about this, let us see why Allah sets out miseries and atrocities, whether they may be on the

international level, or whether they may be on a personal level. Why does it happen to us? The first reason is that this is a source to show Allah your position that you deserve in Heaven. Why? How? Allah knows where you belonged before you were born. What position you belong in Heaven, Allah knows it, but this is a method to prove yourself. Allah is just, on the Judgment Day, every single deed you did has to have a witness for it. The book, the angels, the ground you prayed on, the people who heard you, everything has to have a witness. So if we are all going to pray five times, if we are all going to pay Zakah, if we are going to pay Hajj and we are all doing the same thing, how is Allah going to divide the one hundred ranks in Heaven upon us? If there is not tests and tribulations to see who is patient, to raise and boost their places in Heaven.

وَلِيْمَحِّصَ اللّٰهُ الَّذِيْنَ اٰمَنُوْا... ﴿آل عمران: ١٤١﴾

And that Allah may test (or purify) the believers (from sins). (Surat Aali 'Imraan: 141)

Who are the pure? The ones who are patient in times of tribulation.

لِيْمِيْزَ اللّٰهُ الْخَبِيْثَ مِنَ الطَّيِّبِ... ﴿الأنفال: ٣٧﴾

In order that Allah may distinguish the wicked (disbelievers, polytheists and doers of evil deeds) from the good (believers of Islamic Monotheism and doers of righteous deeds). (Surat al-Anfaal: 37)

مَا كَانَ اللّٰهُ لِيَذَرَ الْمُؤْمِنِيْنَ عَلٰى مَا اَنْتُمْ عَلَيْهِ حَتّٰى يَمِيْزَ الْخَبِيْثَ مِنَ  
الطَّيِّبِ... ﴿آل عمران: ١٧٩﴾

Allah will not leave the believers in the state in which you are now, until He distinguishes the wicked from the good. (Surat Aali 'Imraan: 179)

Allah is not going to leave the believers in the situation they are in. Meaning He is not going to leave everything going, floating in your direction. Something has to happen, why Yaa Allah?

لِيْمِيْزَ اللّٰهُ الْخَبِيْثَ مِنَ الطَّيِّبِ

So we can distinguish the true one from the evil one. The one who belongs in the position with the Siddiqeen and the one who belongs in the first level, we have to know that.

أَمْ حَسِبْتُمْ أَنْ تَدْخُلُوا الْجَنَّةَ وَلَمَّا يَعْلَمِ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ جَاهَدُوا مِنْكُمْ وَيَعْلَمَ

الصَّابِرِينَ ﴿آل عمران: ١٤٢﴾

Do you think that you will enter Paradise before Allah tests those of you who fought (in His Cause) and (also) tests those who are As-Saabireen (the patient ones, etc)? (Surat Aali 'Imraan: 142)

Do you think you are going to enter Heaven when you had a smooth life and you compare your life to one who has struggled for the sake of Allah, or even regular struggles in life? All that you get Ajr for.

The second reason behind these trials and tribulations is to show you, this is not your life. If you live in a country, you are a tourist, you stay there ten days and everything goes smooth for you, you love that world. You always talk about it, the best days of my life, you do not think of leaving it. The same with this life, if everything goes smooth in this life, it is hard for you to depart it. If everything goes smooth in this life, it is hard for you to think about Heaven. How could you think about Heaven when everything is going smooth for you? How could you? It has to have problems to make you think about Heaven, you have to.

Third reason, so you can ask and beg and please Allah to make you closer to Allah. Look at it and think of it, the most times people turn to Allah is when? When everything is going good? They do not even go by the Masjid when everything is going good. When they have problems and then they pick up the phone, Shaykh I have a problem. That is the only time they call the Shaykh, when they have a problem. When they have a dead relative, his father is in front of him dead, his son is in front of him dead, the heart inside, it needs something to grasp on, and that is when their weak spot will come. Allah uses these to take people back to Him. How many people do we know that became guided over the death of a relative once? That changed their life, how many? Hundreds, you probably all know examples yourself, of a misery that happened to someone and it changed their whole life. These are among the reason why Allah tests us.

Look at this example and every time you face a trial or tribulation in this life, you have to look at it. If you get up to pray and you put your backpack in the Masjid and someone steals it, do not go shedding tears and crying. If you leave the Masjid and your window is broken, it is a problem. You leave, someone hits you on the red light, it is a problem. If you travel and you are speeding, you get a ticket, it is a problem. Some people, just a little problem like that, they weep and shed tears and they probably cannot sleep over the night and they are depressed.

Give you the example of one man, Ayyub. Eighty years of his life, he lived the most smoothest, best life, anyone can live. Fourteen kids, a good wife, happy with his wife,



Messenger of Allah, what more could you want? In a matter of days, it all changed, it flipped around. How? This Messenger of Allah Ayyub gets a disease, his skin changes. Not only that, fourteen of his kids die one after the other, matter of days. He handled it with Imaan and patience, the verse we mentioned in the beginning of the Khutbah, with patience and prayer he handled it. His wife said make Du'aa. If he makes a Du'aa, just raises his hands and says Yaa Allah, Allah is going to respond. Make Du'aa, No. He tells his wife, how many years did we live in a good luxurious manner? She said eighty years. He said when we live another eighty years in a misery, then I will raise my hands to Allah and ask for Du'aa, eighty and eighty.

The years went on where she had to work as a maid, from the luxury she was in, she is a maid. Make Du'aa, he refuses until he reaches a point where she has to sell her hair. They used it in the battlefields for some thing that they needed, she sold her hair to keep supporting that man, the Messenger of Allah Ayyub. That is when he raised his hands and he made Du'aa, Allah on the spot responded. How many years of this misery that no one can handle? Disease, no one would talk to him, no one would come near him, no one would come near his town. People were beginning to shun his wife thinking she is contagious with that disease and that disease is going to spread upon them. Not only him, his wife too, fourteen kids. Not a single why me? Why did it have to happen to me? Why myself? No, patience. What happened?

...أَنِّي مَسْنِيَ الضُّرِّ وَأَنْتَ أَرْحَمُ الرَّاحِمِينَ ﴿الأنبياء: ٨٣﴾

“Verily, distress has seized me, and You are the Most Merciful of all those who show mercy.” (Surat al-Anbiyaa’: 83)

One minor Du'aa. What did Allah say?

فَاسْتَجَبْنَا لَهُ فَكَشَفْنَا مَا بِهِ مِنْ ضُرٍّ ۖ وَآتَيْنَاهُ أَهْلَهُ وَمِثْلَهُمْ مَعَهُمْ رَحْمَةً

مِّنْ عِنْدِنَا وَذِكْرَىٰ لِلْعَابِدِينَ ﴿الأنبياء: ٨٤﴾

So We answered his call, and We removed the distress that was on him, and We restored his family to him (that he had lost), and the like thereof along with them, as a mercy from Ourselves and a Reminder for all who worship Us. (Surat al-Anbiyaa’: 84)

We took that evil, that problem that happened to him out. When his wife walked up on him after he was cured from the disease, she said who are you? The disease covered his body so much, she did not know who he was when she walked up on him. We gave him that which was there before and double. You know what that means? When he was cured, Allah gave him not fourteen kids for being patient those eighteen years, but twenty eight kids.

## رَحْمَةً مِّنْ عِندِنَا وَذِكْرَىٰ لِلْعَابِدِينَ

As a mercy from Ourselves and a Reminder for all who worship Us.

Mercy of Allah because of those eighteen years of patience.

One more story of Qays Ibn 'Aasim al-Munqari, keep it between your eyes, these two stories. When you have a problem, those little problems that we have, laugh them off, they are nothing compared to these stories that we have over here. This is the solution to your problem, when you have a problem, you turn to Allah. When you have a problem, you say Alhamdulillah. Eighteen years with a skin disease and fourteen kids, a speeding ticket is nothing, you overlook it like nothing is going to happen. A car is stolen, whatever it may be, you did not get accepted to the university, you got fired from a job, all these are normal things when you compare it to eighteen years.

Look at this man, Qays Ibn 'Aasim al-Munqari. He is a Tabi'ee, Qays Ibn 'Aasim had a disease, it was spreading in his foot. They said we have to cut your foot, he said no. They said if we do not cut it now you are going to die. He said:

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Go ahead. They said here is alcohol, they have no medicine to cure him so they said here is alcohol for you. He said alcohol? He has an excuse, Islam gives him an excuse, he is in a hardship. He said Allah prohibited something and Allah gave me a mind, and I use that to take away my mind? No, wait until I pray two Rak'ahs. When I am in the Rak'ah that you feel me floating with the verses of Allah, his mind, his power is not in this world, it is in the Heaven and Hell and the gardens of Heaven and the luxuries of the life after, laughing with the good pleasures of Heaven, crying with the stories of Hell. What did he say? When you feel me floating with the verses, cut my leg off. They cut it off when he was praying, he passed out. Not a single moan when they were cutting it, he did not feel it. His mind was not there, his mind was with Allah. He did not feel it but he passes out from the blood.

When he wakes up in the coma he was in, his son dies. Listen to this and keep it in your mind and teach it to your kids and to your brothers, when there is a time of hardship. He wakes up, they say may Allah give you better than what He took from you. He said what did Allah take? They said your leg. He said my leg, what else? They said your son. He had four sons, one of them died in his coma. The narrator of the Hadith said he did not add more than say:

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And you know what he said? He said, give me my leg. He looked at his leg and you know this is stunning what he did. He looked at his leg and he kissed it, that is not the stunning part. The stunning part is he said, Wallahi I never used this leg to walk for a sin ever. How many of us could say that, Wallahi I never used that leg to walk to a sin ever? Wallahi this story melts a heart if it was as hard as a rock. I never used this leg, Wallahi how many of us could say that today? And then he said, look at the patience in this man, Alhamdulillah Allah gave me four body parts, He took one, I have three left. Allah has been generous to me, I have three, I have two hands left and one leg. I have one kid that Allah took his life, I have four kids. Allah has been so generous to me, He left me with three kids. Allahu Akbar, this is the patience that Allah says:

...وَبَشِّرِ الصَّابِرِينَ ﴿١٥٥﴾ الَّذِينَ إِذَا أَصَابَتْهُمُ مُصِيبَةٌ قَالُوا إِنَّا لِلَّهِ وَإِنَّا  
إِلَيْهِ رَاغِبُونَ ﴿١٥٦﴾ ﴿البقرة﴾

But give glad tidings to As-Saabireen (the patient ones, etc). Who, when afflicted with calamity, say: "Truly! To Allah we belong and truly, to Him we shall return." (Surat al-Baqarah: 155-156)

Patience to carry out the commands of Allah. Patience to come to this Masjid in Fajr when you are the neighbour of the Masjid, patience to wake up to pray the Salah in the beginning time of the Salah, to carry out the commands of Allah. What is that? Do you look at it and say oh man that is hard. How can I wake up for Fajr, how can I pray on time, how can I not deal in usury? It is hard. Put before your eyes the example of Ibraheem. Allah does not tell him wake up 5:30, Allah tells him it is your son whose neck has to be cut. Which is easier? Praying that takes five minutes, a little thing that Allah asks, or Allah asking you to sacrifice your son?

What did Ibraheem say? Not me, why me, why my son? I am not going to do it, I am not going to pray, I am not going to fast, I am going to deal in usury? No, what did he say? He takes his son and puts him on a table and wants to cut his neck off. An example of a pious, patient family. How? His son tells him when you cut my neck father, do not look at me because if you look at me you may be merciful towards me and you will not do that which Allah ordered you. Patience, patience is what causes them to do this.

فَلَمَّا أَسْلَمَا وَتَلَّهُ لِلْجَبِينِ ﴿١٠٣﴾ وَنَادَيْنَاهُ أَنْ يَا إِبْرَاهِيمُ ﴿١٠٤﴾ قَدْ  
صَدَّقَ الرَّؤْيَا ۚ إِنَّا كَذَّلِكَ نَجْزِي الْمُحْسِنِينَ ﴿١٠٥﴾ ﴿الصافات﴾

Then, when they had both submitted themselves (to the Will of Allah), and he had laid him prostrate on his forehead (or on the side of his forehead for slaughtering); and We called out to him: "O Abraham! You have fulfilled the dream (vision)!" Verily! Thus do We reward the Muhsinoon (good doers). (Surat as-Saaffaat: 103-105)

We called him, Yaa Ibraheem, you believed that dream? Allah relieved him but imagine that, put yourself in a setting like that. Not the prayer on time, not that, Allah tells you sacrifice your beloved child. Allah gives us so much and asks so little to be patient with and we refuse to do that, imagine if it was your son that Allah ordered you to sacrifice.

The first one of patience is trials and tribulations we mentioned. The second one is patience carrying out the commands of Allah. The third one is patience to stay away from the sins that Allah ordered you to stay away from. And I give you one example of Yusuf 'alayhis salaam because probably the hardest thing on the young of this Ummah is dealing with women and probably women dealing with men, probably the hardest thing. A lot of the Muslims today, alcohol is not a problem to them. Like one of the Sahaabah said, he was truthful and he told the Prophet sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam, he said O Prophet of Allah if you put me alone with a woman who has no hands and no legs I am going to commit the sin. He said that to the Prophet Muhammad sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam, he was sincere and this is a problem we have in our Ummah today.

How do we deal with it? Put yourself in the position of Yusuf. Not you approaching a woman for a Haraam, a woman approaching you. Who are you? You are a Messenger. No, you are the most and probably best looking creation of this earth. You are alone with her, who is the woman? The wife of the leader of his time. The wife asks you to commit adultery, who is that man? Her slave. He could get freed or he could be in luxury, he could get spare time, he could get all that. Not only that, the women of the town in their entirety are after him, they want him. What did this pious man do, prefer the sin? Ma'aath Allah, no, no way. Then he said:

... رَبِّ السِّجْنُ أَحَبُّ إِلَيَّ مِمَّا يَدْعُونَنِي إِلَيْهِ... ﴿يُوسُفُ: ٣٣﴾

"O my Lord! Prison is more to my liking than that to which they invite me." (Surat Yusuf: 33)

Imagine that, Allah, I rather you put me in prison with the criminals, with the scums of the earth, than in the palace with the best looking woman of the time, the wife of the leader of the time. The jail is better for me than that which they call me for.

These are the trials and tribulations in this life that we have to realise and we have to be patient in them. If I have a child that died, everyone could have a child who died, nothing special about it. Kaafir, Jew, Atheist, Hindu, they have children who died, we all have problems. They go to church, I will probably go to the Masjid. They be patient on Sunday

morning, we be patient and pray. There is one aspect of patience and it is the peak of aspects, the reward of it is Jannah, it is special for you. What is that aspect? Patience for trials and tribulations that happen to you because of your Imaan, because of your Islam.

The Prophet sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam passes by the family of Yaasir. He sees the mother in pain under the whips of Abu Jahl, next to her is her son, next to her tied to a post is her husband. And what did he tell them? When she is stabbed by Abu Jahl in her private part may Allah curse him and he passes by her, he said:

صَبْرًا يَا آلَ يَاسِرٍ فَإِنَّ مَوْعِدَكُمْ الْجَنَّةُ

What you are going through because of Laa Ilaaha Illallah, your appointment is the gardens of Heaven. Heaven is your resort, that is where you belong.

This does not mean you get killed for the sake of Allah, being mocked because you are Muslim is this category, reaches you Inshaa Allah to Heaven. Being degraded because of your religion is a cause for you to enter Heaven. Sticking up for your brothers who are oppressed in Iraq and Afghanistan and Kashmir, supporting them at a time when the cowards refuse to talk is a cause for you to enter Heaven, because it is only the heroes who take the burden of that upon themselves.

Musa 'alayhis salaam gives Da'wah, one after the other after the other, so his Da'wah becomes popular. What are they going to do to Musa? They cannot kill him, he has got power behind him now, he has got people behind him. What did they do? They used a tactic the infidels always use, defame the character, character assassination. They stick a charge or two to them to defame the character. Why did they do that to Musa? Because when they knew Musa has no character, he has got no one to listen to him. Qaroon said I have the plan, what is the plan Qaroon? Qaroon says my plan is I paid a prostitute who just had a baby, to say that baby is his. They fabricate, do not believe the lies you hear. There is always a Fir'awn, every century, every time, every decade we have Fir'awns who talk about the people. They do not have food in Iraq and they say they have nuclear weapons. They do not have food, our brothers are dying in Iraq.

What did they say to Musa? He walked in on Fir'awn, he said Fir'awn are you going to believe in the One and only One Lord? All of a sudden a prostitute starts yelling in the background, this is the man. What man? He is the one who fathered the child. A lie, a fabrication. What is a Daa'iyah going to do there? He raises his finger to Allah, this patient man does not go hysterical. Allah the only One, O Allah the only One, aid me in this matter. He points to her, I ask you by Allah the One who gave me the miracles you know of, did I father that child? She said no. Allah solved the problem right there and then but this is always going on.

Aishah radhiallahu 'anha, your mother, gets attacked in her character. Why? They want to defame the Prophet sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam. If his wife is playing behind his back he has no character, character assassination. You have to be patient in these kinds of trials and tribulations. Aishah radhiallahu 'anha, what did she do? Thirty days under the agony that the vast majority of the people of her time are thinking she committed adultery, and the Prophet sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam the patient man making Du'aa, humble to Allah, asking and pleading with Allah.

This is the path of Islam. This is the path of Laa Ilaaha Illallah. This is the path that the neck of Zakariyyah was cut for. This is the path that Yahya was split in half for. This is the path that Muhammad sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam was at a time a wanted man. This is the path that Uthman falls dead in his own blood. This is the path Ahmad Ibn Hanbal spends a large portion of his life in prison. This is the path Ibn Taymiyyah died in prison. This is the path the great heroes of the world asked for because this is the path of Laa Ilaaha Illallah Muhammadar-Rasoolullah, this is what you were created and brought on to this earth for. I tell you this, if you are a Muslim and you do not have problems, double check your faith. Wallahi this is not my word, this is the word of the Prophet Muhammad sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam from the meanings of his Hadith, and this is the word of the scholars after him.

How? The Prophet sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam said the worst punished are the Messengers of Allah, then who? The Kaafir, the ones who try to kill us and annihilate us? No, and then the ones who imitate them and imitate them step by step. You say why, is Allah oppressive? Ma'aath Allah, Allah is not oppressive but when the Kaafir failed the first test, there is no need for any more tests. He is doomed, why test him anymore? When the Muslim got the first test, he passed the first stage, you have to go to the second stage. First semester, second semester, third semester. First grade, second grade, if you failed in first grade one time or two times, you are out. Why do we need to test you again? You are a failure. This is the justice of Allah, this is the path of the Messengers of Allah and this is something you have to be patient for.

I leave you with one last story and I leave it to the end so it can settle in your mind. It is a story narrated by Ibn Hibbaan in a book called Ath-Thiqaat, an authentic story where a young soldier leaves Falasteen to go back to the outskirts where his family is. While on the journey he sees a tent and in the tent is someone saying O Allah give me the power to thank You for all that You have given me, O Allah I thank You for making me better than a large portion of the people. Look at what the Du'aa is, I ask you Allah to give me the power to thank You and I thank You Allah for all that which You have given me which makes me better than a large part of the people.

He said I went to the tent to see who is saying it, an old man, the only thing working on that old man is his tongue. In the Hadith it is unknown whether his body parts are cut or he is paralysed. The only thing working on this old man is his tongue, imagine that. The young man Abdullah Ibn Muhammad (the narrator of the story) said, O uncle what is there that

Allah made you better than other people? Imagine that, you know we say what did Allah give me? Wallahi I talk to some people, what did Allah give me? Give us one of your eyes and then say what did Allah give me, just give us one and then we will say Allah deprived you. You have people who have an income, let alone the income, their physical features. An eye, a face, a mouth, a hand, healthy, and they say what did Allah give me? Ignorant. Look what Abdullah Ibn Muhammad said, what did this man have? He did not understand, he was a young teenager, what did this man have? He said Allah gave me a tongue to thank Him with it, what more do I need? Allahu Akbar, a tongue to thank Him with, what more do I need?

He said now I answered your question, could you go and do a favour for me? What is it? This is not a movie or fabricated or weak Hadith, this is in Ibn Hibbaan in his Thiqaat, Wallahi it was authenticated by the most strict scholars of our time who checked the narration of the Hadith. He said my son who helps me in my Wudhu and helps me to drink and eat, he left three days ago and I am left here stranded. Could you go look for him? He went, he looked for him. He found his bones and he found his camel, he brought his camel back. How is he going to tell this old man this whole story? The only thing he has in life is his son and his son died. He said I sat and I remembered the story of Ayyub, the story I mentioned to you, so I started telling him. The old man said cut your story short, what is the problem, tell me what the problem is. He said your son is dead. He said he did not say more than Alhamdulillah, Inna Lillahi wa Inna Ilayhi Raaji'oon. Alhamdulillah, to Allah we return, to Allah is our resort. And soon after that he passed out and died.

He said I had a problem, if I leave him the animals are going to eat him and I could not leave him and go, it would not be right. So I sat there crying what am I going to do with him, I cannot dig a grave alone, until four people passed by and he told them come and help me bury him. They said ok, who is he? They uncovered his face and they jumped at him kissing him, they said you do not know who this man is? This is Abdullah Ibn Zayd Abu Qulaab al-Jurmi, the biggest student of Ibn Abbaas. He loved knowledge and he loved Islam, he fought in battles and committed his life for the sake of Allah. This is him, and they began crying and kissing him. They buried him.

That young boy Abdullah Ibn Muhammad could not get this story out of his mind. When you are thinking about something all day, you are going to dream about it and the dreams of the pure innocent people are nearly always true. Actually it is a sign of a true man when he dreams that night, and in the morning it becomes just how he dreamt it. He said I had a dream about this man, I saw him (he too is in Heaven) and I said you are the man who was my friend last night? He said yes. He said what did Allah do to you? He said peace be upon you, enter Heaven as you were patient:

سلام عليكم ادخلوا الجنة بما صبرتم فنعم أجر العاملين